

*Fast Mail*

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DATE: April 18, 1967

To : Dr. Joshua Lederberg

FROM : Spyros Andreopoulos 

SUBJECT:

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I read your Washington Post column of April 2, "What's in a Child's Mind," with great interest. I wonder, however, if you are familiar with The Menninger Clinic's long standing research interest in longitudinal studies of growth and development in children. A sample of normal children, now in high school, was first studied by Dr. Sybille Escalona & Associates in their infancy, and have been followed up longitudinally over all the intervening years by Dr. Lois Murphy (Gardner's wife), from the point of view of the patterns of individual development of strengths and weaknesses, of coping devices and of special vulnerabilities.

This major, long-scale program has been productive of many published studies covering the whole range of phenomena under scrutiny from a broadly clinical though precisely statistical vantage point. In this connection, I would recommend Lois Murphy's book "The Widening World of Childhood," if you are interested in pursuing this subject further. It could have been a better book, were it not for the psychiatric jargon, but it has some interesting information on the subject of childhood development.